

# **I ILLINOIS**

## Extension

### **University of Illinois Extension Bond, Clinton, Jefferson, Marion, and Washington Counties Unit 23**

*Multi-County Council Minutes  
May 10, 2021; 6:30 pm; via Zoom*

#### **Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order by Sam Phillips at 6:32 p.m.

#### **Roll Call:**

Council members present included: Lilly (Liz) Trapp, Katie Albert, Carole Moeller, Brent Schorfheide, Bill Waggoner, Linda Summers, Kelly Elias, Steve Newton and Sam Phillips.

#### **Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 8, 2021:**

A motion to approve was made by Linda Summers, seconded by Carole Moeller; motion carried.

#### **Extension Updates:**

- Horticulture Educator
  - Jordee informed the council that the Unit has offered the Horticulture educator position to Chris Lueking and she has accepted the offer. The Horticulture educator will be tasked with growing the horticulture programming, working with the Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists to grow both programs and increase the number of community gardens across the Unit.
- Small Farms Educator
  - Jordee informed the council that Small Farms Local Food educator Laurie George has resigned her position. The Unit does not look to fill that position currently.
- Civil Rights Audit
  - Jordee informed the council that each Unit is audited on Civil Rights compliance by the University every three years. It is critical that we strive to be all inclusive in our programming and have an equal, diverse representation at the table for council and other committees. It is equally important that we are being all inclusive and striving to reach all audiences in our communities through programming. Jordee plans to work with council next year to resolve any findings that may occur through the audit.
- Jefferson County Office
  - The Jefferson County Office will be moving locations. As a result of COVID, campus has charged each Unit with reducing the carbon footprint. Mt. Vernon was presented with a unique opportunity because this is where the Region 3

Office is located. The County Office and Regional Office will be consolidating to one location in late September/early October.

- Mobile Market Update
  - Jordee informed the group that there will be several Mobile Markets during the month of May. Locations include: Mt. Vernon, Nashville, Centralia, Mulberry Grove, Pocahontas and Sorento. Jordee told the group that she would send an email following the meeting with flyers for each mobile market.

### **Financial Update:**

- FY21 March Financial Report
  - Sam Phillips inquired about the salary payout as it looked low for 9 months into the fiscal year. Jordee was not sure what the reasoning was and promised to research the question and get back to the group via email.
  - Sam Phillips also inquired on the reasoning of indicating 0 monies paid for Leases when it is Smith Lever money. He indicated that this is a confusing read. Is there a reason that the financial report reads this way?
  - With their being no more concern on the financial report, Carole Moeller made a motion to approve the FY21 March Financial Report, seconded by Steve Newton; motion carried.
- FY22 Proposed Funding Agreement
  - Jordee proposed a \$10,000 Funding Agreement for FY22. She explained that the funding agreement ensures that miscellaneous donations that come in through each county can qualify for state match. Liz Trapp made a motion to approve, seconded by Brent Schorfheide; motion carried.
- FY22 Proposed Budget
  - Sam Phillips raised concern regarding Jefferson County's contribution compared to their equalized assessed value (EAV). Jordee confirmed that they are currently paying less than their EAV. Sam recommended a 5-year line graph representing each county's EAV. Jordee agreed this would be helpful and promised to map out and bring to the September meeting ahead of Extension Board Meetings.
  - The Council had no further concerns about the proposed budget.

### **New Business:**

- Jordee informed the group that we the Unit will be having in-person 4-H shows this summer. Due to the COVID restrictions and guidelines that must be met, staff have made the decision that it was best to proceed outside of the county fairs. She shared that there has been frustration around this decision and asked the Council to advocate for Extension while out in the community. Unit staff are happy that we can provide in person shows this summer for our youth.
- Jordee informed the group that this meeting is the last meeting for several council members: Michelle Haller (Bond), Liz Trapp (Bond), Kelly Elias (Clinton), Cyndy Mitchell (Jefferson), Regina Donoho (Marion), Jason Timm (Marion), Bill Waggoner (Marion), Wayne Polczynski (Washington), and Brent Schorfheide (Washington) and thanked each member for their service and support with the council. The support, feedback and guidance of the council is invaluable.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

An email will be sent out in early August containing details for the 2021-2022 academic year meetings.

**Adjournment:**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.